and structures of project and sharing of water etc. Subsequently, Government of Uttar Pradesh has conveyed their conditional consent for signing of MoU for preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPR) of Ken-Betwa link in March, 2005. Government of Madhya Pradesh has already conveyed their consent for preparation of DPR of the link. Regarding Parbati-Kalisindh-Chambal link while Government of Madhya Pradesh has already conveyed their consent for preparation of DPR of this link, Government of Rajasthan has not conveyed their decision.

Talks with Nepal on Flood

†3542.SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have initiated a talk with Nepal during the last years to save Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal from the threat of flood caused by the water of the rivers coming from Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to contact Nepalese Government to prepare an action plan to make progress in this direction during the year 2005-2006;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasosn therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government of India is having continuous dialogue with the Government of Nepal on various issues related to water resources development on the rivers common to India and Nepal.

Some of the important achievements are as under:

(i) Field investigations for Sapta Kosi High Dam Multipurpose Project and Sun Kosi Storage cum diversion scheme has been taken up and for this purpose Joint Project Office has been opened in Nepal August, 2004.

†Ortginal notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(ii) It has also been agreed to undertake the feasibility studies of Kamla Multipurpose Project and preliminary study for Bagmati Multipurpose Project by Joint Project Office set up for Sapta. Kosi-Sun Kosi Projects to ascertain the likely constraints in implementation of these projects so that the same could be appropriately addressed.

(iii) Problems of inundation in the vicinity of India-Nepal border are discussed in a Standing Committee on Inundation Problems (SCIP) between India and Nepal, which has been functioning since 1986. Last meeting of this committee was held in December-October, 2004.

(iv) A scheme for cooperation on flood forecasting and warning between India and Nepal has been in operation since 1989. Under this scheme, hydro-meteorological observations are being taken on 42 stations in Nepal. The scheme was reviewed recently and a Flood Forcasting Master Plan (FFMP) prepared jointly, which *inter alia* provides for 47 stations in Nepal, has been approved in the 2nd meeting of the Joint Committee on Water Resources (JCWR) held in October, 2004. For implementation of the scheme a Standing Committee on flood Forecasting has been constituted.

(v) As per the decision taken by Joint Committee for Water Resources (JCWR) during its 2nd meeting held on 7th-8th October, 2004 in New Delhi, an India-Nepal Joint Committee for short term strategy for flood management and control was formed with mandate to work out jointly, a short term strategy for identifying the vulnerable areas along various rivers-common to India & Nepal. The Committee has since held two meetings and site visits and prepared a report for the areas lying between Gandak and Kosi rivers which has been sent to the State Government.

(vi) In order to prevent spilling of flood water form Lalbakeya, Bagmati, Khando and Kamla rivers from Nepal side into Bihar, it has been agreed between India and Nepal to extend the embankments along these rivers in Indian territory to Nepal and tie to high ground there with corresponding strengthening of embankments on Indian side.